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Destination - CANADA

Prepared by

**IMMIGRATION BRANCH
GOVERNMENT OF CANADA**

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YOUR NEW LIFE

In welcoming you to Canada your Immigration Officer takes particular pride in the fact that the services he provides have assisted the newcomer to adjust to his new environment. Since the end of World War II, over two million immigrants have migrated to Canada. The purpose of this folder is to outline the services you may expect to receive as well as to describe some features of the Canadian way of life you will need to know.

In coming to Canada you have made an important decision—one that required courage and determination to meet the challenges associated with establishment in a new country. Possessing these characteristics, it should not take you very long to become happily settled in Canada—the country of your choice.

Visit Immigration Office

As soon as possible after your arrival in Canada, you should visit the Immigration Office in your area. (A list of the Immigration Offices across Canada appears at the end of the text.) When visiting the office, make certain that you have your passport or travel documents with you.

Services Provided by Immigration Officer

Your first concern as a newcomer is to find employment and the Immigration Branch is ready to assist you to find work suitable to your training and experience. They will also help you to find accommodation.

The Immigration Officer can be of great assistance to the newcomer who is contemplating going into business for himself or who may be interested in purchasing a farm. He will explain Canadian business and farming methods which in all likelihood differ from those of your country of origin. This service is provided without charge.

In addition, Immigration offices have listings of businesses and farms which are for sale. You should seek the advice of the officer before entering into negotiations for a business or a farm.

The following are some of the other services performed on your behalf by the Immigration Officer:

Instruction in completing a family assistance application;

Assistance and advice in applying for the admission to Canada of relatives and friends.

The Immigration Officer also will be pleased to describe the functions of the National Employment Service and to assist the newcomer

in registering for a provincial hospital plan. You may wish his help in obtaining an automobile licence, a building permit, etc.

Prior to arriving in Canada, you may have decided on the area in which you plan to settle. You should not be reluctant, however, to discuss this matter with the Immigration Officer as he has an intimate knowledge of Canadian conditions and will undoubtedly be able to provide you with essential information on the area you have chosen. As the Immigration Officer keeps abreast of the changing economic and employment conditions throughout Canada, he can be of great assistance to you in this regard. Also, it may be that economic and employment conditions in the location you have chosen are no longer in line with your qualifications. If this is the case, you should seek the advice of the officer as to an alternate site.

Languages

Classes are available in most cities and towns in Canada where the newcomer can learn either of the country's official languages—English or French.

Free booklets on history, geography, system of government, resources and customs may be obtained by writing to the Citizenship Branch, Government of Canada, Ottawa.

Education

In Canada, education is the responsibility of provincial governments, but locally elected school boards play a large part in its administration. In Quebec, the system is similar to that of France.

The educational system is based on the free public school at which attendance is compulsory from the age of six or seven to fourteen or sixteen depending on the province of residence.

Schools run by religious orders are also found in the various provinces.

Advanced technical and agricultural colleges are located in most provinces and each province has at least one university. The adult education movement is firmly entrenched in Canada, with classes being held in most centres.

Recreation

Although mass spectator sports, such as hockey and football are very popular in Canada, there are ample facilities for individual participation in such pastimes as swimming, fishing, golf, tennis, etc.

Many Canadians spend their summer vacations in lakeside cottages or in one of the national or provincial parks; camping has become very popular in recent years and this

trend is reflected in the numerous park sites which have been created and equipped with the camper in mind.

Freedom of Movement

There are no travel restrictions in Canada, and the newcomer is free to go where he pleases. Road maps and literature on the various provinces may be obtained by writing to provincial tourist bureaux.

Working Conditions

Working conditions in Canada compare favourably with those of any nation in the world. A large segment of Canadian workers enjoy collective bargaining, and the five-day 40-hour week is widespread. Other features include minimum wage rates, holidays with pay, and company sponsored health insurance plans.

Immigrants who are union members should present union cards, indentures and trade certificates to their new employers. In Canada several trades require the newcomer to take a trade test before being granted recognition; similar procedures pertain to professional people, who must satisfy the authorities as to their qualifications. Additional information on this subject should be obtained from immigration offices as regulations for trades and professions vary from province to province.

Social Benefits

Various schemes, either local, national or voluntary, are provided in Canada to meet the social security needs of its people. Employees enjoy the benefits of a national unemployment insurance scheme and provincial systems of workmen's compensation. There are government allowances for children, old people and handicapped persons, and provisions for cases of special family need. A hospital insurance plan and various medical insurance plans are available in most parts of the country.

The following is a brief description of some of the more essential social benefits available to Canadians.

Unemployment Insurance

The majority of workers are protected from the hardships of unemployment by an unemployment insurance fund administered by the federal government. The fund reflects the co-operation of worker, employer and government as it is made up of contributions provided by all three. The employee contributes a small amount from each pay check, based on his earnings, the employer provides an equal share and the government's contribution is one-fifth of this total. The government also pays for all administrative costs.

Workmen's Compensation

If a workman is employed in an industry covered by a provincial Workmen's Compensation Act, he is eligible for compensation for injury suffered on the job or resulting from an industrial disease, unless he is disabled for less than a stated number of days. For any disability arising out of his employment, no matter what the length of the disability, he is entitled to free medical aid, including hospitalization, for as long as needed.

Family Allowances

All children born in Canada, and all children of newcomers who have lived in Canada for one year, are eligible for family allowances paid by the federal Department of National Health and Welfare. To be eligible for this benefit the child must be registered for it, and must be "maintained" by a parent according to the definition of the Family Allowances Act. The allowances are tax-free, and are paid monthly by cheque at the following rates: children under 10 years of age, \$6; children age 10 to 15, \$8; children age 16 and 17 who are still in school \$10.00.

Family Assistance

Family Assistance is a grant for children of immigrants or of persons returning to Canada to reside permanently after a prolonged absence,

and is payable to the parents. It is designed to assist the family during their first year in Canada, a period when their children are not eligible for family allowances. The payments are the same as those for Family Allowance.

Old Age Security

Old Age Security is paid by the federal Government to all residents of Canada 69 years of age or over, provided that they have lived in Canada for at least 10 years prior to their 69th birthday. The age requirement will be reduced a year at a time in subsequent years until 1970 when it will be 65.

Citizenship

As a legally "landed immigrant" to Canada, you are eligible for citizenship after five years of residence in the country. You must file an application for citizenship, depending on where you live, with either the Clerk of the County or District Court, or with the Clerk of the Special Court of Citizenship in Moncton, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Hamilton, St. Catharines, Kitchener, London, Windsor, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Calgary, or Vancouver. If you live more than 50 miles from a Court, you may file your application with the Registrar of Canadian Citizenship in Ottawa, who will file it with the appropriate

court. If you have the status of a British Subject, however, you may file your application directly with the Registrar.

An application filed with a court must be posted for three months before it can be heard by the Court. For that reason, such application may be filed three months before the five-year period of residence elapses. You must appear personally before the Court unless you have the status of a British Subject. In the latter case, the application may be processed by correspondence with the Registrar of Canadian Citizenship.

The above has referred only to the more essential requirements for Canadian Citizenship, and for more detailed information, you should contact the Clerk of the nearest Court dealing with citizenship applications or with the Registrar of Canadian Citizenship, Ottawa.

Immigration Offices in Canada

Newfoundland

Gander International
Airport

St. John's

Nova Scotia

Halifax
Kentville
Sydney

Truro
Yarmouth

New Brunswick

Andover
Clair
Edmundston
Fredericton
Moncton

Ste. Croix
Saint John
St. Leonard
St. Stephen
Woodstock

Prince Edward Island

Charlottetown

Quebec

Armstrong
Drummondville
Granby
Hull
Huntingdon
Lacolle
Megantic
Montreal
Montreal International
Airport
Noranda

Phillipsburg
Port Alfred
Quebec City
Rimouski
Rock Island
Seven Islands
Sherbrooke
Stanhope
Sutton
Three Rivers

Ontario

Belleville	Pigeon River
Chatham	Port Arthur
Cornwall	Prescott
Fort Erie	Rainy River
Fort Frances	Renfrew
Fort William	Sarnia
Guelph	Sault Ste-Marie
Hamilton	Stratford
Kingston	Sudbury
Lansdowne	Timmins
London	Toronto
Niagara Falls	Toronto International
Orillia	Airport
Oshawa	Waterloo
Ottawa	Windsor
Owen Sound	Woodstock

Manitoba

Boissevain	Emerson
Brandon	Winnipeg
Dauphin	

Saskatchewan

Estevan	Regina
North Battleford	Regway
North Portal	Saskatoon
Prince Albert	

Alberta

Calgary	Grande Prairie
Carway	Lethbridge
Coutts	
Edmonton	Red Deer

British Columbia

Aldergrove	Osoyoos
Cascade	Paterson
Dawson Creek	Penticton
Douglas	Port Alberni
Huntingdon	Prince George
Kamloops	Prince Rupert
Kingsgate	Rykerts
Kitimat	Sidney
Nanaimo	Vancouver
Nelson	Vancouver International
Nelway	Airport
New Westminster	Victoria
Yukon	
Whitehorse	

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